directed the Government not to proceed further till the matter is decided by the Court. On 15.5.2002, the High Court modified its orders dated 25.4.2002 to the extent that the Central Government was allowed to take the decision in respect thereto, but the said decision could not be given effect without the leave of the court. Accordingly, the appropriate authority in the Government took a decision on 11.6.2002 based on the recommendations of the Inter-Ministerial Committee, with some modifications. The said decision of the Government was notified on 12.7.2002 after the leave of the Hon'ble High Court. The notification dated 12.7.2002 was challenged by the Indian Jute Mills Association (IJMA) and others in another writ petition no. T 394 of 2002 in High Court at Calcutta. The High Court on 17.7.2002 directed the Government not to give effect to the notification dated 12.7.2002. On 19.7.2002, while hearing both these writ petitions (T 235 and T 394 of 2002) the High Court observed that it will be desirable for the Central Government to look into the matter and if possible try to follow the notification dated 1.9.2001 in the mean time. Final orders of the High Court are awaited.

Effects of National Textile Policy in export and employment

†2333. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state to what extent permanent employment and export have increased so far after the announcement of National Textile Policy in November, 2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASAN GOUDA R. PATIL): National Textile Policy, 2000 was announced in November 2000. Total textile exports during the year 2000-01 were worth Rs.2,01,35,645 lakh. As on 31st March, 2002 the figure stood at Rs.2,07,74,556 lakh. The employment in cotton/man-made fibre textile mills and powerloom industry as on 31st March, 2001 was 52 lakh 31 thousand. As on 30th June, 2002 the figure stood at 52 lakh 43 thousand.

In addition, there has been employment generation in handloom, handicrafts and other sectors related with textiles which because of its decentralised nature cannot be assessed and quantified. However, it is estimated that employment in the total textiles sector would have grown at the rate of 1.74 per cent per annum.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.